

**VISIT THE BOUTIQUE
FOR LOCALLY HANDCRAFTED
TREASURES AND MORE**

Give a gift with meaning this holiday season by purchasing something locally made at the Creekside Boutique, 9801 Penn Avenue South.

Boutique hours:

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Tuesdays, 6 - 8 p.m.
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**MEMORABLE
MONDAYS
CREEKSIDE LUNCH SERIES**



Human Services presents three themed lunches you won't want to miss this winter:

- **January 24** – Wolfquest Lunch, featuring a presentation on wolves by Leah Darst of the Minnesota Zoo.
- **February 28** – Hot Cocoa Social, including delicious hot cocoa, lunch and door prizes.
- **March 28** – Minnesota History Lunch with historian Joseph Nicollet.

Reserve a spot at least two days in advance by calling 952-563-4944.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CREEKSIDE

**RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES
HUMAN SERVICES SUPPORTING OUR CITIZENS**



Human Services provides exceptional programs and services to community members of all ages. For more information, call Human Services at 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740. To sign up for e-mail updates, go to our website, click on [E-Subscribe](#) and subscribe to "Human Services."

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HUMAN SERVICES.

**TAX PREPARATION SERVICES
INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE AT CREEKSIDE**

Human Services is partnering with AccountAbility Minnesota and AARP Tax-Aide to make tax assistance programs available for residents. Tax assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, **February 1 - April 14**, to individuals who meet income-qualifying guidelines of \$30,000 or less for individuals and \$50,000 or less for families.

ACCOUNTABILITY MINNESOTA

AccountAbility Minnesota will provide free tax assistance to individuals who meet income guidelines.

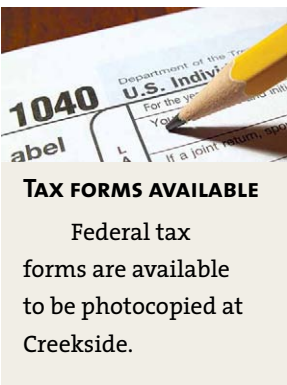
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays,
February 1 - April 14.
Time: 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
When: Saturdays, February 5 - April 9.
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

AARP TAX-AIDE

AARP Tax-Aide will provide free tax preparation services to taxpayers with middle-to-low incomes, with special attention to people age 60 and older.

When: Mondays and Tuesdays, January 31 - April 11.
Time: 9 a.m. - noon.

Taxpayers with complex tax returns are advised to seek paid tax assistance.



TAX FORMS AVAILABLE

Federal tax forms are available to be photocopied at Creekside.



**PARTNERS IN FITNESS
JAPANESE RUNNER PARTICIPATES
IN TWIN CITIES MARATHON**

The Bloomington Sister City Organization (BSCO) welcomed Chikako Hatatani, *pictured above at left*, as part of its annual marathon exchange program with sister city, Izumi City, Japan.

Hatatani participated in the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon in October, completing the course in 4 hours, 25 minutes and 19 seconds.

While visiting Bloomington, Hatatani received a tour of Civic Plaza, including the Center for the Arts and police department.

Bloomington residents Darrell and Lynne Christensen hosted Hatatani during her visit. Darrell Christensen is also a marathon runner and has been selected to represent Bloomington in the 2011 Senshu International Marathon in Izumi City.

Christensen and Rachael Moench will be headed to Izumi City in February to participate in the Senshu International Marathon.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: SENSHU MARATHON.

**"GET ACQUAINTED"
HIGHLIGHTING NEW
OPPORTUNITIES**

Residents are invited to learn more about the unique programs and activities offered through the Get Acquainted with the Senior Programs at Creekside event. From dining to woodworking to pottery, the Senior Program has it all. Informational sessions will be held **January 5** and **February 2**.

No registration is required.

**WELLNESS INVENTORY
TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR
HEALTH**

Bloomington Human Services, Parks and Recreation, and Public Health are teaming up with St. Catherine's University to provide health and wellness information to active, aging adults.

This free event takes place **Wednesday, January 19, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**, at Creekside Community Center. A variety of fun activities and useful information for healthy living will be presented. No reservations are required.



GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY

**ADVOCATE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
BUSINESS RECOGNITION AWARD**

Normandale Community College and retailer Banana Republic at the Mall of America were recognized at a recent City Council meeting by the Human Rights Commission for supporting the employment of people with disabilities.



The Business Recognition Award is presented annually in October to a local Bloomington business that excels in the employment of people with disabilities. The recognition is part of a month-long effort that educates and promotes the employment of people with disabilities.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: DEAM.

**SHOWING OUR
APPRECIATION
VETERANS LUNCH
HONORS SERVICE
MEN AND WOMEN**

Human Services held its third annual Veterans Appreciation Lunch this past November. The event drew 166 people, including several veterans and active duty military personnel. Retired Minnesota National Guard staff sergeant John Kreisel, *pictured right*, was keynote speaker.

Military songs were played for each branch of service. Veterans and active duty military personnel were asked to stand during their song and received thank you letters written by Normandale Hills Elementary and Westwood Elementary students.

Thank you to Girl Scout Troop #11599, Boy Scout Troop #439 and Human Services volunteers for serving lunch to attendees.



**TRAVEL TO JAPAN
JAPANESE CULTURE, CUISINE
AND MORE AT ANNUAL EVENT**

Have you dreamed about visiting Japan, but don't have the time or money to actually go there? Now is your chance to enjoy Japanese culture and cuisine in Bloomington.

Enjoy an authentic Japanese meal, live entertainment and a silent auction at the annual Taste of Japan dinner, **Saturday, March 5**, at the Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington, 3900 American Boulevard West. This annual event is a fundraiser for Bloomington's Sister City Organization.

For more information, visit www.bloomington-izumi.org.